ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF HAMILTON.

1895=6.

SALEM, MASS.
PRESS OF BARRY & LUFKIN.
1896.

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SCHOOL COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

Geo. K. Knowlton, Chairman, . .	term expires	1898
Albert L. Whipple, Secretary, . .	" "	1896
Arthur W. Chandler, . . .	" "	1896

Purchasing Agent, A. L. Whipple.

TRUANT OFFICERS.

Louis H. Bradstreet, Charles E. Whipple.

To the Citizens of the Town of Hamilton:

In compliance with the laws of the state, your committee present the following report.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

(Closed Feb. 28, 1896.)

Amount appropriated by the town for schools,	$2,500 00	
Dog licenses,	148 00	
		$2,648 00
Paid for teachers,	2,062 10	
" " Care houses,	100 68	
" " Fuel,	139 98	
		$2,302 76
Amount unexpended,		$345 24

Amount of Mass. school fund,	$235 35	
Balance from 1894–5 " "	180 07	
		$415 42
Paid teachers from Mass. school fund,		256 00
Amount unexpended and carried over to 1896-7,		$159 42
Amount of appropriation for High school scholars,		$540 00
Amount paid for tuition of High school scholars,		485 88
Amount unexpended,		$54 12

TEACHERS.

Miss Lucy A. Gray,	$ 36 00	
Miss Nellie A. Kinsman,	166 00	
Mr. Everett A. Smith,	153 00	
Miss Grace A. Knowlton,	247 10	
Miss S. Nellie Henderson,	153 00	
Miss Cora P. Harwood,	54 00	
Miss Jessie M. Doty,	360 00	
Miss Grace M. Chadbourne,	324 00	
Miss Adelaide A. Keith,	253 00	
Miss Edith M. Arnold,	207 00	
Miss Carrie G. Hill,	153 00	
Miss Hattie S. Tarr,	104 00	
Miss Maidee P. Polleys,	108 00	
		$2,318 10

FUEL.

W. F. Redlon, coal, South school,	$27 88	
J. C. Sauer, coal, South school,	8 00	
J. P. Lovering, wood, South school,	16 10	
Alvin Smith, wood, Center school,	22 00	
Amounts carried forward,	$73 98	$2,318 10

Amounts brought forward,	$73 98	$2,318 10
Wm. A. Brown, wood, North school,	22 00	
Jona. Lamson, wood, West school,	22 00	
I. F. Knowlton, wood, East school,	22 00	
		$139 98

CARE OF SCHOOL HOUSES.

B. W. Adams, South school,	$27 88	
T. B. Riddle, " "	27 50	
F. E. Jones, " "	4 00	
Emerson Dodge, " "	50	
Arthur Ramsdell, " "	65	
Jona. Lamson, West school,	4 50	
H. S. Gwinn, " "	3 00	
L. Dodge, East school,	3 00	
E. A. Day, " "	4 50	
Roy W. Whipple, Center school,	5 75	
Frank Woodbury, " "	4 50	
Winnie Wright, North school,	6 90	
A. A. Dunnels, " "	3 00	
Eddie McGregor, " "	5 00	
		$100 68
Full amount,		$2,558 76

HIGH SCHOOL ACCOUNT.

Paid city of Boston, tuition, Marion S. Brown, Sept. 1, 1894 to July 1, 1895,	$80 88

CITY OF SALEM.

Bertha M. Dodge, Sept. '94 to June 30, 1895,	$50 00
Ethel L. Dane, Sept. '94 to June 30, '95,	50 00
Amount carried forward,	$100 00

Amount brought forward,	$100 00	
M. B. Hobbs, Sept. '94 to June 30, '95,	50 00	
Martha Robinson, Sept. '94 to June 30, '95,	50 00	
Roy W. Whipple, one term to Feb. '95,	25 00	
		$225 00

CITY OF BEVERLY.

Cordelia E. Wallace, Sept. 1, '94 to July 1, '95,	$30 00	
Florence E. Dodge, Sept. 1, '94 to July 1, '95,	30 00	
Mollie Smith, Sept. 1, '94, to July 1, '95,	30 00	
Florence M. Blake, Sept. 1, '94 to July 1, '95,	30 00	
Bessie Brown, Sept. 1, '94 to July 1, '95,	30 00	
Fred Haskell, to Feb. '95,	15 00	
Grace R. Ayers, to Feb. '95,	15 00	
		$180 00
		$485 88

SCHOOL SUPPLIES.

Boston School Supply Co.,	$244 05	
J. L. Hammett,	29 84	
The American Book Co.,	7 20	
Ginn & Co.,	3 33	
George F. King & Merrill,	26 63	
Greenough, Adams & Cushing,	5 75	
Almy, Bigelow & Washburn,	6 35	
Thorp & Martin,	2 89	
		$326 04

TRANSPORTATION OF CHILDREN, 1894–5.

Elmer E. Clark,	$56 00

MISCELLANEOUS.

BILLS OF 1894–5.

Hardy Brothers, 1 door and express,	$6 35	
Lester E. Libby, school furnishings,	1 69	
Edward P. Perley, binding dictionary,	1 75	
Ephraim Patch, cleaning funnel, North school,	1 50	
Eddie W. McGregor, cleaning funnel, North school,	2 00	
J. P. Lovering, express,	15	
H. M. Bixby, curtains, North school,	5 55	
		$18 99

BILLS OF 1895–6.

Irving W. Wheeler, 2 flags,	$5 50	
Irving W. Wheeler, repairing flags,	2 30	
Everett A. Smith, repairs, West school,	97	
G. C. Ryerson, glass and setting,	11 25	
G. C. Ryerson, painting black boards, South school,	5 00	
J. F. Porter, repairs, North school,	75	
Gideon Marshman, keys for school houses,	3 00	
George H. Gibney, setting flag pole, South school,	3 50	
George R. Dodge, grading yard and other labor, South school,	2 25	
Sylvester Day, transportation teacher, North school,	4 50	
William Tuttle, cleaning North school house,	3 20	
B. & M. railroad, freight on desks,	92	
Amount carried forward,	$43 14	

Amount brought forward,	$235 25
J. Augustus Smith, cleaning 2 clocks, South school,	1 20
Fred A. Nason, putting in desks and repairs, South school,	26 83
Lester E. Libby, oil and lamp, South school,	1 75
Lucy Channel, cleaning Center school,	3 00
Crosby & Carr, mason work and stock, Center school,	8 45
Batchelder & Gould, school furnishings,	2 28
Lunt, Rogers & Chase, oil stove and chairs, South school,	17 00
Ivory Quimby, water supply, South school,	30 00
Arthur E. Whipple, sanitary and other labor,	8 00
A. A. Dunnels, sanitary and other labor, North school,	5 75
Elmer E. Clark, carriage and express,	3 10
Henry Hale & Co., hardware,	82
James Hart, cleaning West school house,	2 50
F. C. Norton, school furnishings,	6 00
Almy, Bigelow & Washburn, mat, South school,	50
E. C. Tibbetts, moving school books,	2 75
Frank Trussel, repairs,	1 60
D. C. Smith, removing ashes, South school,	1 50
B. W. Adams, sanitary labor, South school,	75
American Express Co., books,	4 15
Proctor's express, books,	90
Amount carried forward,	$364 08

Amount brought forward,	$364 08	
Alden J. Chandler, repairs,	1 50	
Ira A. Dunnels, express,	2 00	
E. A. Wright, transportation teacher, North school,	3 25	
Lewis H. Bradstreet, truant officer,	4 00	
Arthur W. Chandler, cash paid cleaning South school house,	2 00	
Arthur W. Chandler, expense on acct. of teacher,	2 50	
Albert L. Whipple, expense on account of teacher,	5 00	
Albert L. Whipple, purchashing agent,	10 00	
George K. Knowlton, expense on account of teachers,	11 00	
George K. Knowlton, expense on account of school furniture,	4 00	
George K. Knowlton, expense on account of high school scholars,	2 00	
George K. Knowlton, repairs,	4 05	
George K. Knowlton, express and postage,	1 25	
George K. Knowlton, school census,	5 00	
		$248 51

INSURANCE.

Amount insured, South school house,	$2,000 00	
Centre school house,	900 00	
West school house,	800 00	
North school house,	700 00	
East school house,	700 00	
Full amount of insurance,		$5,100 00
Premium,		112 20
Dividend,		47 30
Paid for insurance to May 12, 1898,		64 90

SUMMARY.

GROSS RECEIPTS FOR ALL SCHOOL PURPOSES.

Appropriation for schools,	$2,500 00	
Appropriation tuition high school scholars,	540 00	
Dog licenses,	148 00	
Massachusetts school fund,	235 35	
Balance Mass. school fund, 1894,	180 07	
From general appropriation,	136 67	
		$3,740 09

GROSS EXPENDITURES FOR ALL SCHOOL PURPOSES.

Paid teachers,	$2,318 10	
Care of school houses,	100 68	
Fuel,	139 98	
Tuition high school scholars,	485 88	
School supplies,	326 04	
Transportation of scholars,	56 00	
Miscellaneous,	248 51	
Insurance	64 90	
		$3,740 09

SCHOLARS ATTENDING HIGH SCHOOL.

BEVERLY.

Mollie Smith,	entered September, 1894.
Florence M. Blake,	" " "
Catherine T. Robinson,	" " 1895.
Albert L. Smith,	" " "
Edith M. Gibson,	" February, 1896.

IPSWICH.

Mabelle C. Barker, entered September, 1895.

SALEM.

Scholars continuing their studies, having entered by permission of the school committee of 1894-5.

Bertha M. Dodge, Ethel L. Dane,
Martha Robinson, Mary B. Hobbs,
Roy W. Whipple.

ESTIMATE FOR SCHOOLS.

The committee present the following estimate of the amount of money needed from the town to carry on the present number of schools for the year 1896–7.

Amount for payment of teachers, care of houses, and fuel,	$2,500 00	
Text books and school supplies,	400 00	
Small repairs and miscellaneous,	175 00	
Incidentals for school rooms,	25 00	
		$3,100 00

FOR HIGH SCHOOL TUITION.

Beverly,	135 00	
Ipswich,	25 00	
Salem,	250 00	
		410 00
Amount for all school purposes,		$3,510 00

STATISTICAL TABLE.

From April 1, 1895, to February 28, 1896, 36 weeks.
School attendance, to February 21, 1896, 35 weeks.

SOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Teacher, Miss Grace M. Chadbourne.

	Spring term.	Fall term.	Winter term.
Wages of teacher per month,	$36 00	$36 00	$36 00
Length of term in months,	3 1-4	2 3-4	3
Whole number of pupils,	45	46	48
Average membership,	38	44	44
Average attendance,	35	41	38
No. of pupils between 8 and 14 years of age,	17	18	21
No. of pupils under 8 years of age,	28	28	27

SOUTH GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Teachers, Miss Nellie A. Kinsman, spring term.
" " Adelaide A. Keith, fall and winter.
" " Hattie S. Tarr, assistant, winter.

	Spring term.	Fall term.	Winter term.
Wages of teacher per month,	$40 00	$44 00	$44 00
Wages of assistant per month,			32 00
Length of term in months,	3 1-4	2 3-4	3
Whole number of pupils,	37	43	41
Average membership,	35	40	38
Average attendance,	31	37	34
No. of pupils over 15 yrs. of age,	2	4	5
No. between 8 and 14, " " "	35	39	36

EAST SCHOOL.

Teacher, Miss S. Nellie Henderson, spring term.
" " Edith M. Arnold, fall and winter.

	Spring term.	Fall term.	Winter term.
Wages of teacher per month,	$36 00	$36 00	$36 00
Length of term in months,	3 1-4	2 3-4	3
Whole number of pupils,	34	32	33
Average membership,	31	31	25
Average attendance,	29	27	18
No. of pupils over 15 yrs. of age,	0	0	2
No. between 8 and 14 " " "	26	24	23
No. under 8 yrs. of age,	8	8	8

CENTRE SCHOOL.

Teachers, Miss Grace A. Knowlton, spring and fall terms.
" " Maidee P. Polleys, winter term.

	Spring term.	Fall term.	Winter term.
Wages of teachers per month,	$36 00	$36 00	$36 00
Length of term in months,	3 1-4	2 3-4	3
Whole number of pupils,	18	18	22
Average membership,	18	18	20
Average attendance,	16	15	15
No. of pupils over 15 yrs. of age,	0	0	1
No. between 8 and 14 " " "	8	9	11
No. under 8 yrs. of age,	8	5	5

NORTH SCHOOL.

Teacher, Miss Jessie M. Doty,

	Spring term.	Fall term.	Winter term.
Wages of teachers per month,	$36 00	$36 00	$36 00
Length of term in months,	3 1-4	2 3-4	3
Whole number of pupils,	18	20	23
Average membership,	15	19	19

NORTH SCHOOL — CONTINUED.

	Spring term.	Fall term.	Winter term.
Average attendance,	14	17	17
No. of pupils over 15 yrs. of age,	0	0	2
No. between 8 and 14 " " "	11	14	14
No. under 8 yrs. of age.	7	6	7

WEST SCHOOL.

Teachers, Everett A. Smith, spring term.
" Miss Cora P. Harwood, fall term.
" " Carrie G. Hill, fall and winter.

	Spring term	Fall term.	Winter term.
Wages of teachers per month,	$36 00	$36 00	$36 00
Length of term in months,	3 1-4	2 3-4	3
Whole number of pupils,	28	35	30
Average membership,	22	31	28
Average attendance,	23	26	20
No. of pupils over 15 yrs. of age.	0	1	2
No. between 8 and 14 " " "	17	22	20
No. under 8 yrs. of age,	11	12	8

Population of the town May 1, 1895,	1356
Number of children between the ages of 5 and 15,	194

Your committee entered their official work under peculiar circumstances. At the annual town meeting held in March, 1895, two new members were elected on the board of school committee, one to take the place of a member whose term of office expired and the other to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of one who had removed from town. Soon after the meeting was held the remaining member of the old board resigned. This vacancy was filled, as provided

for by law, in the election of Mr. Arthur W. Chandler. No member of the previous year being on the new board, it was obliged to take up the work at some disadvantage. It was found that some material changes had been made in the management of the schools and those that were thought to be of value were retained.

Miss Lucy A. Gray, teacher of the South primary school, resigned her position, and Miss Grace M. Chadbourne, who had obtained valuable experience in the Quincy schools, was engaged to fill the situation. Miss Nellie A. Kinsman had charge of the South grammar school, with Miss Grace A. Knowlton, assistant, during the winter term. Miss Knowlton wished to take another school, and Miss Kinsman desired to try the spring term without an assistant, although told that she could have one if she wished. She said it was difficult to use an assistant to advantage without a recitation room. Mr. Everett A. Smith was retained in the West school; Miss Jessie M. Doty in the North school, and Miss S. Nellie Henderson in the East school. The Centre school, which had been closed during a large part of the winter term and the children transported to the North school, was again opened and placed in charge of Miss Grace A. Knowlton. Under these arrangements the schools were opened April 1, 1895 for the closing term of the school year, and which the committee decided should be thirteen weeks as planned by the previous committee, the term to close the last week in June.

During this term several teachers' meetings were held in order that the committee might come into direct official relations with all the teachers, receiving their reports of work in the several schools, and giving them instruction and encouragement as might be needed. The teachers of the several schools were instructed that they need not spend two or three weeks of valuable time in getting up special exercises for examination day, but that they might simply show the

committee, and others who might be present, some of their regular work.

The schools closed in the following order:

North school, Wednesday A. M., June 26. Whole number of scholars present, 17; visitors present, 10. Classes deserving special mention for good recitations, fourth grade in language, seventh grade in geography, seventh grade in arithmetic, and the seventh grade in reading.

East school, Wednesday P. M. Scholars present, 28; visitors, 6. Deserving special mention, fourth grade in language, fifth and sixth grades in arithmetic. Perfect in attendance for the school year, Gertrude K. Weston, Sadie A. Dodge, Helen Dodge, Harold F. Morgan.

South Primary school, Thursday A. M., scholars present 33; visitors 14. Recitations in physiology and geography were exceptionally good.

South grammar school, Thursday P. M., scholars present 31; visitors 16. The recitations were very commendable, and other exercises given were appreciated by all who were present. Perfect in attendance for the year, Ethel M. Roberts. Roll of honor for the term, Ethel M. Roberts, Ethel F. Blake, Nellie M. French, Sumner Redlon.

Center School, Friday A. M. Scholars present 13, visitors 1. The classes were small but gave very good recitations.

West School, Friday P. M. Scholars present, 21; visitors, 4. Deserving special mention, fifth grade in reading, ninth grade arithmetic, seventh grade geography, ninth grade physiology, seventh and eighth grades history, perfect in attendance for the school year, Ethel S. Adams, Rodney H. Adams, Jonathan Lamson, Albert F. Hart.

Your committee gave the High School matter a careful consideration, and, in order to have a system to work by, it was decided to select some one high school, which should be approved by the State Board of Education, and that all pupils from this town who wished to enter a high school,

under the provisions of the law of 1894, should attend that school. Provision, however, was made that in case any parent, or guardian, desired a scholar to attend some other than the school selected by the committee, they should make application in writing, stating their reasons therefor, and that such request should be considered by the committee in executive session. If the reasons were deemed to be good and sufficient, permission should be given on condition that the amount of tuition, to be paid by the town, should not exceed the amount charged for our own selected school.

Satisfactory arrangement was made with the city of Beverly to take all our scholars who should pass the examination required of their own pupils for entrance to the High School, the sum of thirty dollars to be paid for the tuition of each pupil for the school year. During the summer vacation a number of our scholars took examinations for admission to this school, only two which were admitted. This being somewhat of a surprise to the parents, and others, the committee were besieged with requests and petitions, suggesting, and calling for various plans for the management of the schools. A result of the agitation was the calling of a special town meeting, the principal object of which was to see if the town would raise and appropriate a sum of money sufficient to establish an additional school. This was decided in the negative.

The board of committee had been in office only during the closing term of the school year, and could not be expected to see that the higher grades were fitted for the high school in that short time. But they gave much consideration to the matter and decided that the standard of teaching in our schools must be raised. To do this, meant a careful selection of teachers of experience, and thorough qualifications for the school room, and this meant higher wages. As the place to test a teacher thoroughly is in the school room, it was decided to use, and possibly for the first time in the history

of the town, the teacher's certificate of qualifications as required by law, and put every new teacher on a probationary period of one term for trial. As the committee of the previous year had fallen into line with the desire of the State Board of Education to have all the public schools begin the school year in September, your committee arranged all their work on this plan.

Miss Kinsman had worked faithfully for more than a year in the South Grammar School. But finding the work too hard and perplexing she resigned her position at the close of the school year. After a careful examination of the qualifications of many teachers, Miss Adelaide A. Keith, a teacher of great experience, and a strict disciplinarian, was selected for that school.

Miss Chadbourne, who had been very successful in the South primary school, was engaged to continue her work there.

Mr. Everett A. Smith, who had taught several years in the West school, resigned his position at the close of the school year, and Miss Cora P. Harwood was elected to fill the place for one term trial, unfortunately she lost control of the school, and was not able to continue through the term, and Miss Carrie G. Hill was engaged to finish the term, which she did with good success.

Miss Doty was engaged to return to the North school where she had done excellent work.

Miss Henderson, whose work in the East school was very satisfactory; did not return as she decided to attend a school at Wilbraham.

Miss Knowlton continued her faithful work in the Center school.

Thus the schools opened and continued through the fall term.

No change of teachers was made for the winter term, except in the Center school, where Miss Maidee P. Polleys

was engaged for one trial term to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Miss Grace A. Knowlton at the close of the fall term.

The most perplexing problem the committee has had to deal with has been the proper management of the two South schools. Early in the fall it became apparent that more desks would very soon be needed in the primary, and possibly in the grammar departments. Fourteen new desks were purchased for these two rooms, making provision for forty-nine scholars in each room. This number is considered by the Board of Education as being too large for a single teacher, and was provided only as a matter of necessity.

After a careful consideration of existing conditions at the close of the fall term it was decided to put an assistant into the grammar school, and fit up and use the entry on the north side of the house for a temporary recitation room, and Miss Hattie S. Tarr was engaged as assistant teacher for the winter term.

The two schools are now doing as good work as can reasonably be expected under adverse circumstances.

There is constant addition to these schools and the only right solution of the matter is for room to be provided for an intermediate grade school.

Therefore, the committee reccommend that some action be taken at the next annual town meeting favorable to additional school room.

While your committee makes no claim to perfection in the management of the schools the past year, it has tried in every ease to do what was thought to be for the best interest of the schools.

There is constant advancement all along the line of the public schools, a united press has awakened the people to the important fact of their being at the very foundation of our government, and the national flag floating over

them tells its own story. With the abundant educational facilities at the present time, and constantly increasing, no child with ordinary mental power has any right to grow up without obtaining at least a fair common school education, and no parent or guardian has any right to in any way deprive any child of such education.

A large amount of money is expended each year for the education of children, and to obtain the best possible results from it is the work of those who have the supervision of the schools. The schools of the smaller towns do not as a rule, have the time and attention given to them that their importance demands. The Board of Education recognizing this are already looking to the passage of a law compelling a superintendency of the public schools throughout the State.

When our schools close in June we shall be able to learn what advancement has been made during the school year.

The school houses are in good condition and will require no large expenditure of money, except the Centre house which needs new seats, and possibly a new floor. If the town shall decide to do this an appropriation of at least two hundred dollars will be needed.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE K. KNOWLTON,
ALBERT L. WHIPPLE,
ARTHUR W. CHANDLER,
School Committee.

TRUANT OFFICERS' REPORT.

To the School Committee of Hamilton:

Gentlemen:—I have attended to the duty of truant officer in the case of one boy who was on the streets, and around the school grounds several times during school hours. Also, in the case of several boys who were at the golf grounds in this town during school hours. Made four calls on parents about children being absent from school.

LEWIS H. BRADSTREET, Truant Officer.

Hamilton, Feb. 28, 1896.

To the School Committee of Hamilton:

Gentlemen:—I have attended to the duty of truant officer in the case of one boy being absent from school.

CHARLES E. WHIPPLE, Truant Officer.

Hamilton, Feb. 28, 1896.

Calendar for the school year 1895-6, as arranged by the present School Committee.

Fall term, (11 weeks), Opens September 9, 1895. Closes November 22, 1895.

Winter term, (15 weeks), Opens December 2, 1895. Closes March 20, 1896.

Spring term, (10 weeks), Opens April 6, 1895. Closes June 12, 1896.